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Elevation of Places in North Africa and Fezzan above the level of the Mediterranean, determined with the Barometer.

Name.	Eleva- tion, English Feet.	Remarks.	Name.	Eleva- tion, English Feet.	Remarks.
<i>Tripoli</i> . . .	502	English garden.	<i>Wadi Zemzem</i>	384	
<i>Ainzara</i> . . .	74	Water-pool in the Desert, 7 miles S. from Tripoli.	<i>Bonjem</i> . . .	204	
<i>Tobras</i> . . .	173	Well, 14 miles S. of Tripoli.	<i>Wadi Bunayé</i> .	695	48 miles S.E. from Bonjem.
<i>Zeïach</i> . . .	407	Marabut and Well 27 miles S. of Tripoli.	<i>Tmád el Tár</i> .	1110	Well 15 miles N.W. . . } from Sokna.
<i>Mulcher Pass</i> .	704		<i>Mountains</i> . . .	1350	
<i>Hills E. of the</i> <i>Pass</i> . . .	1309		<i>Sokna</i> . . .	1036	
<i>Mulcher, Well</i> .	1089		<i>Godfú</i> . . .	1640	
<i>Hills E. of the</i> <i>Well</i> . . .	1529		<i>Mountains near</i> <i>Godfú</i> . . .	1900	<i>Sode, Black Mountains.</i>
<i>Máthen</i> . . .	1176	About 25 miles N. from Beniolid.	<i>Valley</i> in the <i>Black Mount</i> <i>Mountains</i> around it .	2065	
<i>Mi Muher</i> . .	1235	Wadi, 10 miles N. from Beniolid.	<i>Desert S. of the</i> <i>Sode.</i>	2160	
<i>Beniolid</i> . . .	920	South edge of the Wadi.	<i>Om el Abid</i> .	1380	About 35 miles S. from Godfú.
<i>Wadi Sofejin</i> .	270	15 miles N.W. of Enfád.	<i>Sebha</i> . . .	1360	
<i>Enfád</i> . . .	269	Well.	<i>Desert</i> between <i>Sebha</i> and <i>Rhodoa.</i>	1380	
<i>Ditto</i> . . .	412	Mountains.	<i>Rhodoa</i> . . .	1590	About 25 miles S. from Sebha.
			<i>Murzuk</i> . . .	1495	
					<i>Level of the street opposite to the English Consulate.</i>

*Murzuk, Oct. 1, 1853.*

**XVII.—Extract of a Letter from Dr. Barth to Dr. Beke, dated Timbuctu, Sept. 7th, 1853.**

With Routes in Central Africa.

Read March 27, 1854.

ON setting out from Libtako we expected to reach Timbuctu in about 20 days, but have been obstructed, partly by heavy rains, swollen streams, the weakness of my camels (of which two have died and four more have been knocked up since leaving Bornu), and by the sickness and trading of the Timbuctu man whom I had hired in Libtako. We were conducted neither by way of Hombori nor by the common pilgrim-road, through Gilgoji, Dalla, and Duenza, but by a roundabout road through some small and independent towns of the Sonray, called Koar by the people of Timbuctu, and then through the midst of the Tuarick tribes of the Tademekket, who occupy all the country S. of the Mayo or Isa for more than 60 miles. We arrived at length, on the 27th of August, at

Saraiyamo, the place mentioned in the itinerary of Ahmed bel Mejúb, the largest place we have seen since leaving Say ; and embarked, the 1st of September, on a fine broad sheet of water, 300 yards from the town, which, however, further on was much overgrown by grass. The large number of channels—called *rijl* by the Arabs of Timbuctu—formed by the inundations of this great river are remarkable : I think there is no river to be compared with it in this respect. You will form a better idea of the net of channels which we met with by a glance at the map which I am about to forward to the Foreign-Office than by a long description. In the afternoon of the 5th day, after a curious zigzag navigation, we arrived at Kábara, having entered the river itself on the afternoon of the 4th day. I say we arrived at Kábara—indeed in the boat, at least I myself and the luggage, almost at the end of the rainy season—but you will be greatly surprised when I tell you that this celebrated port of Timbuctu lies several miles distant from the river, and is only accessible by water during four or five months of the year, when the rains have been most plentiful ; and it is quite impossible to reach this place by water in the month of April. Indeed, the channel by which we went up to Kábara on the 5th of September was so small that, after all the people had left the boat besides myself, it was dragged up with the greatest difficulty by the boatmen, who went in the water, which in most places did not reach up to their knees, and was about 15 feet wide. Just before Kábara a larger basin is formed, perhaps artificially, where a few vessels were lying, while a row of barks of considerable size were seen at Korome near the mouth of the channel, forming a really magnificent sight. Indeed, this moving village and the island or islands of Day lying between Kábara and the river may be more correctly called the port of Timbuctu than Kábara, which is a small town or *ksar* of about 400 houses and huts. As for the Mayo itself, it is a really splendid river, with which, of all the rivers I have seen, I can only compare the Nile at its highest flood ; and the river is still rising, but never reaches Kábara.

My entry into this fanatic place was very grand, escorted as I was by the brother of the Sheikh el Bakay, with several people on horseback, on camels, and on foot ; and I was saluted by the most respectable of the inhabitants and strangers who came out to meet us. Nobody but the sheikh's brother was acquainted with my real character, while all the rest thought, or were told, that I was a messenger of the Sultan of Stambúl.

There being a kaffla of Tawatis intending to start the day after to-morrow for Tawat, I hasten to close this letter, which indisposition has prevented me from making more interesting, and I will only add a few data :—

Timbuctu, situated ..	18° 4' 0" N. lat.	..	1° 45' 0" W. long. Greenwich.
Saraiyamo .....	17 6 0	„	.. 1 53 30 „ „
Junction of the channel with the river	17 46 0	„	.. 1 50 0 „ „
Bóne .....	15 50 0	„	.. 1 0 0 „ „
Kúbo .....	15 19 0	„	.. 0 22 30 „ „
Arribinda .....	14 53 0	„	.. 0 6 10 E. long. „ „

Even during the highest rise of the river, a person going to Bamba and Ga'o has first to return S. and E. to get into the river; the channel or ditch of Kábara having no outlet towards the East.

*Routes from Kano to Nyffe, and from Mozambique to Lake Nyassi. Extracted from Letters from Dr. Barth to Dr. Beke, dated Kano, March 4th, and Kuka, July 25th, 1851.*

#### 1. Kano to Nyffe.

I now send you the route from Katshna to Nyffé, according to a man who has travelled much, and whom I was about to hire as a servant, Mohammed Annoor.

1st day. About Aser you arrive at Metomáti, a large village, after having passed several smaller ones on the road, one of which is called Góura.

2nd. Before Aser arrive at a place called Gari-n-mu-tum-daea (the place of the single person), because since it was destroyed by the Fellanis it has been entirely deserted. Near the village is a large valley, with constant water in the dry season. The whole day's journey is through forest.

3rd. About half-past one o'clock P.M. you encamp in the middle of the forest, where there is plenty of water.

4th. Between Kaila and noon arrive at Grib Mohammed Diko.

5th. At sunset reach Gabezava, a place surrounded by a mud wall, and the residence of three different chiefs—one of whom is from Gober, one a Kohelán, while the third, who is named Omárú, is a Fellani. Forest; but in the neighbourhood of Gabezava there are villages.

6th. After Aser arrive at Katúrkeshi, a place surrounded by a mud wall, in a state of decay. To the right and left you have villages.

7th. About Kaila arrive at a small place surrounded by a hedge, called Kurmi-uyá. The whole road through forest.

8th. About half-past one o'clock P.M. arrive at a village called Magajia, belonging to the wife of the governor of Guari. The road lies through a country irrigated by many streamlets. A part only is cultivated, the remainder being covered with forest. To the right and left you pass some villages.

9th. About half-past two o'clock P.M. reach a large place called Fitonguari, surrounded by a wall. On the road there is but little wood, almost the whole country being cultivated. Villages to the right and left.

10th. At half-past one o'clock P.M. arrive at Birni-n-Gúari, a large town, governed by Sultan Mahmúd. Both the wall and the houses are built of mud. The palace lies in the S. quarter. There is a small stream on the E. side of the town. The country is a little hilly.

11th. About half-past one o'clock P.M. reach Bakí-n-Kogí (the mouth of the stream), a collection of scattered villages situated on the side of a water-course, running first eastward, but afterwards turning back to the W. There are small banks on the stream. The whole country is cultivated, there being no forest at all. Villages to the right and left.

12th. Informant, after three or four hours' travelling, encamped, early in the morning, in the cultivated lands still belonging to Guari.

13th. At about eleven o'clock A.M. reach Kurmi-n-Womba, a little open place on a small watercourse, which forms the frontier of the province of Katshna.

14th. About the same time encamp at a well, called Kurmi; the road lies through a cultivated country, with but little wood. Villages to the right and left.

15th. About the same time arrive at Womba, a large town surrounded by an earth wall, the residence of a sultan, who is independent, although the country belongs to Guari. The town, which is built entirely of hasheesh (the house of the sultan alone being built of earth), has a daily market, which is much frequented. All the inhabitants are Kohelán. The whole country is well cultivated; there is a good deal of rice, and many gonda trees.

16th. About nine o'clock encamp near Gotsi-n-dutsi, a small village belonging to Womba. The whole country is well cultivated. At one place the road passes between two rocks.

17th. About eleven o'clock A.M. reach Mátene, a large town, with a governor, belonging to the Kohelán, who pays tribute to the Sultan of Zaria, to which place it is a seven days' journey from Mátene. Here is a small rivulet. The country through which the road lies is hilly, with many trees. Much cotton.

18th. About half-past one o'clock P.M. arrive at Kurmi, belonging to Nyffi, situated on a small stream which runs into the Kaduna. There are villages to the right and left of the road.

19th. About eleven o'clock A.M. arrive on the northern bank of the Kaduna, where you encamp. There are large boats on the river. The country all under cultivation.

20th. Early in the morning informant encamped in the forest.

21st. About half-past one o'clock P.M. arrive at a large place called Debba, with a market much frequented. The houses are built of mud and hasheesh. There is a small rivulet near the village. The country well cultivated, and shaded by many trees, such as the gonda and labuje.

22nd. Early in the morning encamp at Gari-n-babérbere, a large place surrounded by a wall of mud.

23rd. At the same time (about nine o'clock) reach Kurmi-n-kada, a considerable open place with a large pool in the centre, in which there are crocodiles (hence the name of the village); this water is navigated in kaderkos.

24th. About eleven o'clock A.M. reach Yakaji, a large walled place, with a sultan. There is a rivulet here. The road is covered with forest.

25th. About eleven o'clock A.M. arrive at a large walled place called Mákua. The houses generally are built of mud and hasheesh; and there is a tank in the village. There is plenty of gonda and áyeba.

26th. About nine o'clock arrive at Raba, a place now in ruins.

Ledé, the present capital of Nyffi, is two days from Mákua.

From Gotsi-n-dutsi a road branches off in a more westerly direction, leading to Gorji, one of the most important places of Nyffi.

1st day. About Aser reach Bere; the road lying through a country covered with forest.

2nd. About Aser reach Kurremi, an open village.

3rd. About eleven o'clock A.M. reach Sabó-n-garí, a large place surrounded by a mud wall.

(4th. About nine o'clock reach Ungoi-káramá, a place situate on a mountain, the whole country being hilly. Farther off is Ungoi-babá, also upon the mountain. This is not in the direct line; the traveller returning to Sabó-n-garí, and thence pursuing the direct road.)

4th. About nine o'clock A.M. arrive at Gari-n-maiyaki, a large walled place in the plain.

5th. About the same time reach Baki-n-kogí, a small village situated on a river which unites with the Kaduna.

6th. About ten o'clock reach Gorji, a large walled town with a considerable market, lying upon a hill over the river called Baki-n-kogí, but identical with the Kaduna. Much tobacco. Ledé is 4 days' journey from Gorji.

Going from the E. towards Raba:—Jangaru, Gorji, Akáre, Yákáji, Jemágú, Rafi-n-kádá (with many crocodiles), Makera, Bakánné (one of the most considerable places), Mákua, Raba.

Coming from the N.:—Tshédia, Daba, Karofi, Gotomejí, Búllada, Jéngi (the native town of Sultan Masaba), Raba.

Going S. from Raba:—Lemú, Za (situated in the river Eggá).

To these I may add Kafeto, a place of importance.

## 2. Mozambique to Lake Nyassi.

Earlier than I expected I have been forced to return from my journey to Adamaua, Mohammed Loél, the governor of that region, having suspected my objects in exploring his country.

At Yola a prospect opened to me of alluring magnitude. I there met a very amiable Arab, Sherif Mohammed ben Ahmedu, a native of Mokha in Yeman, who had travelled all over the eastern shores of the African continent, from Jard Hafún as far down as Sofála, and had penetrated from Mozambique to Lake Nyassi, and who, being well acquainted with the English, declared himself ready, for a sum of 300 dollars, to be paid at Zanzíbar, to penetrate with me across the continent in the direction of that magnificent lake. Nyassi being the great centre of the commerce of an immense part of Central Africa, I am sure we should have to go scarcely a month's journey from Baia in that direction, before we fell in with the frequented road to that market. I must satisfy myself, however, with giving you my friend's itinerary from Mozambique to Nyassi, which, as far as I know, is quite new. I should have been able to give many corrections for that part of the continent, if the order of the governor had not driven me away from Yola. But I entertain strong hopes to see my Sherif again.

### *Itinerary.*

1st day. Sleep in Sembe, the landing-place on the coast after having crossed the channel.

2nd. Mesoka, a place paying tribute to the Portuguese, and on friendly terms with them.

4th. Muguru, the first place of the Mókkua or Mákua, with a governor of the name of Mosir. All the houses are of gesh.

6th. Encamp on the banks of the Mezízima, a small rivulet, but containing water at all seasons of the year. The whole country is flat.

8th. Inati, a large place of the Mókkua (with a governor of the name of Namakoma), situated at the southern foot of a mountain, which is visible at four days' distance.

10th. Encamp at a part, full of trees, on the banks of the river Lori, which, though not navigable, is of considerable size.

14th. After a four days' journey through a level country, reach, in the evening of the fourth day, Marabázi, a pretty village of the Mókkua, situated on the river.

15th. Between one and two o'clock P.M. arrive at Méto, the residence of Malia, the powerful chief of the Mókkua, situated in a valley enclosed by low mountain ranges. The country is hilly, but cultivated.

16th. After a journey of about 8 hours, pass the night.

18th. Sleep on the banks of a river enclosed by rocky heights.

21st. Sleep in a village situated at the foot of a large mountain, after having on the second day passed a rivulet running towards the sea, like all the above-mentioned watercourses.

22nd. Sleep on the banks of the river Luvúma, containing water at all seasons of the year.

23rd. Between one and two o'clock P.M. enter the territory dependent on the tribe of the Mohiau, commencing at the village Mokoiyaiha, situated beyond a chain of almost isolated mountains. Beyond this village, where you pass the night, the entire country is cultivated.

26th. After about 2 hours' journey, enter the mountains (all the country, on the 24th and 25th days, being flat), and reach a village of the Mohiau, called Murinde, situated at the foot of a mountain.

28th. Arrive on the banks of the rivulet Lyyinde, issuing from a lake called Killúa and joining the Luvúma. Both days the country passed is flat.

29th. Chánia, a settlement of the Mohiau.

30th. Enter a large mountain-chain, containing numerous springs; and sleep in a village situated in the midst of the mountains.

31st. Reach Menímam, a small village situated beyond the mountains, on a rivulet running E.

32nd. Sleep in a village situated in another mountain-chain, after having, about noon, passed a broad ancient road which has the appearance of a dry watercourse, and which avoids the mountains and runs from S. to N. This road, respecting which my informant was quite full of astonishment, and which is the common talk of the people of all the country round, as being a monument of former ages, is called Mulsila.

33rd. A steep descent from the village where the last night was passed brings you about noon down to the shore of Lake Nyassi. You sleep in the village of Moála, where a market is held, though the great market-place of Nyassi is Ngómbo, 3 days N. of Moála. A white rock rises in the lake not far from Moála.

In crossing the lake from Ngómbo to its western side, where the capital of the sultan of Nyassi is situated, you pass one night on an island.

The lake neither rises nor falls at any season of the year. My informant thinks it most probable that the Nile takes its origin from this lake, though he did not visit its northern part.

To the W., or rather to the W.N.W., of Nyassi, he heard of another extensive lake, called Timbáze, distant about a month's journey.

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### XVIII.—*The Limpopo, its Origin, Course, and Tributaries.*

By MR. THOMAS BAINES.

Read January 9, 1854.

ON the northern side of the Vaal river, dividing the waters that flow into it from those that swell the streams to the northward, lies a tract of high land, from 60 to 100 miles in breadth. The northern side of this high land is called the Witte Water's Raandt; and farther west, where the Mariqua rises, it is named the Zwart Ruggens.

Opposite to the Witte Water's Raandt, and nearly parallel to it, is the Magálie's-berg, or Cashan Mountains, leaving a